AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-9 (canceled)

10.   (original) A method of transferring a file in a peer-to-peer computer network, the method comprising:

redirecting the file from a first peer node to an interception node, the file being originally intended to be transferred directly from the first peer node to a second peer node, the first peer node and the second peer node being computers in the peer-to-peer computer network;

processing the file in the interception node; and

transferring the file from the interception node to the second peer node.

11.   (original) The method of claim 10 wherein the peer-to-peer computer network includes the Internet.

12.   (original) The method of claim 10 wherein processing the file in the interception node comprises scanning the file for viruses.

13.   (original) The method of claim 10 wherein processing the file in the interception node comprises filtering a content of the file.

14.   (original) The method of claim 10 wherein redirecting the file comprises:

informing the second peer node that an address of the first peer node is that of the interception node.

15.   (original) The method of claim 10 wherein transferring the file from the interception node to the second peer node comprises:

querying a P2P server for location information of peer nodes involved in a transfer of the file;

based on a response from the P2P server, identifying the second peer node as a node involved in the transfer of the file from the first peer node; and

transferring the file from the interception node to the second peer node.

16-21 (canceled)

22.   (original) A method of transferring a file in a peer-to-peer computer network, the method comprising:

transferring the file from a first peer node to an interception node, the file being originally intended to be transferred directly from the first peer node to a second peer node, the first peer node and the second peer node being computers in the peer-to-peer computer network;

scanning the file for viruses in the interception node; and

transferring the file from the interception node to the second peer node.